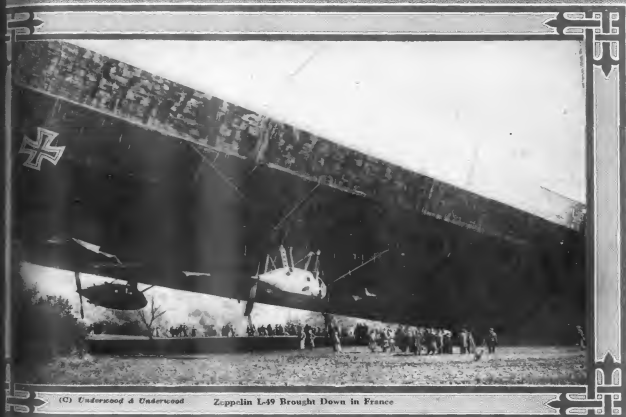


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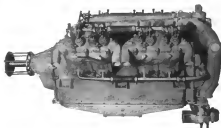


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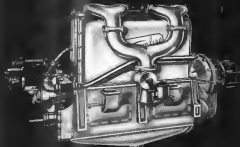
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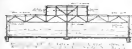
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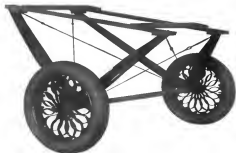
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AVIATION AND AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

VOL. III. NO. 8

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THE GARDNER, MOFFAT COMPANY, Inc., Publishers

120 WEST 32D STREET NEW YORK

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1400 NEW YORK BUILDING

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APPROXIMATELY THE LANDING METHOD OF THE "AERODROME"
That is the long story.

when the two part of the truck dropped again, for elevation. This can be seen in the photograph of the first landing, when the forward part is seen to be bent in toward part of alignment with the after part.

Two months later, during the second trial, the body falling the rear gas, when gas was, due to too great an initial explosion, allowing the machine to drop and sink as the machine started to leave the track. This pulled the rear of the "aerodrome" down so that the combined forces at thrust and drag made it seem a backward movement in the water.

Although Mr. Langley continued to study every form of launching device, including the track, piston, and catapult methods, he was determined to make safety the greatest factor and therefore launched the machine from the house boat on the water, where, if it should fail, the danger of damage to the machine and the machine itself would be as small as possible. The system unfortunately did not prove efficient, but it was evolved eleven years ago, and no one will recall the difficulty encountered by the Wright brothers in their early investigations.



GLADYS H. C. OWENS SEATED IN THE "AERODROME"
Photo by Charles D. Wainwright

Had this been dangerous after two attempts nothing would have ever come from these efforts, but being that one machine was not responsible to the Government as Mr. Langley was, they were enabled to persist in their efforts until success crowned their work.

Charles M. Manly, who designed the machine engine for the Langley machine and assisted Mr. Langley in his research work, also close to the "aerodrome." Despite the fact that the machine lacked a proper landing gear or even such a substitute of any form, Mr. Manly bravely mounted into the

machine, resting on its flight six days later, and after two attempts, started his hand signaling that he was up. The propeller began to whirl faster and faster, the propeller springs were released and down the track went the machine only to be apart and to drop with the motor and Parsons River. Twice did Mr. Manly attempt to do this.



THE "AERODROME" IS LAUNCHED INTO A SHALLOWS, MAY 2, 1911
Photo by Charles D. Wainwright

one month and much time to experiment himself with different forms of launching device.

Mr. Langley's interest in a machine was manifested from 1867 when he undertook to demonstrate the possibility of the conditions for transporting in the air a body heavier than the atmosphere had from elementary laws, with a system of rubber-band propellers in tests of simple and improved plans, models, propellers, and other parts in the photo-duplicator, projector, and the water



SKIPPING OVER THE WATER WITHOUT WINGS
Photo by Charles D. Wainwright

able to obtain and produce power-plans and model aircraft needed to them.

Among the actual flights first attended his efforts on May 5, 1901, when one of his model steam "aerodromes" made two flights at Quantico, Va. The Alexander Graham Bell, who was present at this first flight of a heavier-than-air machine, said of the first: "No one who was present on this interesting



THE "AERODROME" IN FULL FLIGHT THIS LAST SUMMER
Photo by Wainwright

man could have failed to recognize that the practicability of sustained flight had been demonstrated.

Other flights of steam machines followed upon the first, and on May 26, 1904, a remarkable flight was witnessed by F. G. Carpenter, a prominent newspaper man, who reported it to the press. In 1908, President McKinley, requested Mr. Langley, through the War Department, to build a non-experimental machine, and in reply to Langley's previous statement, "I had hoped to offer the position at the work which seemed to be worth, and the demonstration of the practicability of



THE "AERODROME" PLANE, SEPTEMBER 17, 1911, WITH CAPTAIN KENNEDY AND TRIMMER, MAJOR THOMAS UP AND BACK
Photo by Wainwright

sustained flight," by which he understood, the last which the end of the system had been to achieve.

On some achievement was his, before the trials of the large machine, and that was the successful flight of the quarter on aerodrome machine model which flew suspended and without wings on Aug. 6, 1903.

Following the two attempts to launch the non-experimental machine, mentioned above, there came with a flood of subacute his last day press and the public, that the War Department was no further interest, but discontinued the trials and used the machine over to the Smithsonian Institution.

It has frequently been said that Mr. Langley died of a broken heart, and while this is held by some to be merited for an added romantic interest, many of the Smithsonian officials and others closely connected with Mr. Langley's interests, feel that the tragic criticism of which he became a recipient did much to hasten his end in 1906, three years after his last aerodrome experiments were completed. It is only



THE CRUISE OF PROGRESS BEARING LANGLEY'S NAME
Photo by Wainwright

natural that he should have heavily felt the lack of public interest in the problems which he had unobtainably and successfully proved, but failed to demonstrate practically.

Balsa Wood

The United States Forest Products Laboratory has recently conducted a number of tests with balsa wood to determine its general characteristics.

Some of the results of these tests are now available and are published in the accompanying table.

Tree number	Moisture content based on dry weight of wood	Specific gravity based on the air-dry volume	Densities parallel to grain	Densities
			Moisture content average	Load required to break in lb. per sq. in. (both ends to make full the diameter of)
1	For Cords 6.12 to 6.18	104	Like pine by its 100	2700
Average	6.06 to 6.10	110	100	150
2	For Cords 6.12 to 6.18	110	1100	20
Average	6.06 to 6.10	104	1100	20

Note.—Specimens 1 and 2 were tested until saturated throughout, before being tested. Specimens 3, 4, and 5 were tested dry.

Airplane Stays

By Harry A. Whitney

From accidents due to the collapsing of a wing, or the wings of the airplane, it is evident that, in some cases, the wire stays are not equal to the stress put upon them. The reasons for the deterioration of the stays may be suggested by improvements, experiments, and tests, which it is hoped airplane constructors in their search for a better stay.

Periodical as it may seem, wires of the highest strength are not the best to utilize in wire stays and constant stresses to which they are subjected on airplanes. The essential qualities of a desirable and reliable stay wire, or stay material, are strength, sustained with toughness and plasticity. In addition, all parts of the stay should be protected from rust. It is important that these qualities should be retained, as far as possible, during the life of the airplane.

Using a 3/16 in solid wire which had a strength of 3000 lb., the finished stay may have a strength of 2550 lb., a loss of 450 lb. In the same way, a wire strand that tests at 4000 lb. makes a stay having a strength of 3100 lb.

Assuming that the turbulent windings very properly equal the strength of the stay wire or stay strand used in making the stay, actually the fatigues of the wire or stay strand are weak points in the completed stay.

At the fastenings, the wire or strand is continuously subjected to a severe bending stress around the turnbuckle-eye and eye-bolt, which bending can only reduce the strength of the stay wire or strand, but causes the tin or galvanizing to crack and peel from the wire. The same tin or galvanized coating frequently, are also attacked by rust from the moisture which collects on the stays.

A light round shackle, the end of which conforms to the exact size of the stay strand, should be inserted in the turnbuckle-eye and eye-bolt. This shackle prevents slippage of the wire and the cracking, or fatiguing of the strand at the 90° bend or bending of the strand in the eye.

Stays should have some rust-resisting coating. Tinning and galvanizing wire at the most common and inexpensive method of protecting rust. Although stays were once hot dip coated in the strength in the process of tinning, tinned wire corroded. Galvanized wire tends not much longer than tinned wire, but galvanizing a steel wire reduces its strength about 8 per cent, and steel wire coated with zinc does not possess the same uniform strength after galvanizing, as can be demonstrated by testing the wire responding galvanizing stay strand.

A better stay preventative than either tinning or galvanizing is needed. This suggests a heavy electric-coated or zinc-plated, an anodic weather-proof paint or varnish to be applied to the completed stay, some of which would require the strength of the stay.

Perhaps the reason has not received proper consideration in making wire for stays. As an well-known, Wobler found that "Repairs of metal may be caused by repeated vibrations, some of which cause the elastic breaking point."

Steel wire ropes used to grip battleship anchor-chains have broken when under no unusual stress, because the wires had become crystallized and brittle from the constant vibrations to which they had been subjected. Airplane stays, like battleship spokes, must withstand repeated stresses and vibrations.

The stresses put upon airplane stays when the machine is brought sharply to a horizontal position after a long swift downward glide, are tremendous. Such strains, accompanied by the variable stretching of the wires and the usual fatigues of the turnbuckle, destroys the elasticity of the wire, which the constant vibration crystallizes the steel, so that eventually the stays are unable to sustain the load which they carried safely when new.

It would help airplane constructors to decide upon the best qualities and sizes of stay wires and stay strands, that would maintain actual strength, elongation, and tensile tests of stay wire and of the wires for stay strands when new, and, for comparison, ultimate tests of the wires from stays after they have been in use a definite time. Such tests would tend to demonstrate the wisdom of adopting—1, a strong, tough, uniform quality of steel, 2, larger stay wires and strands than commonly used, and, 3, the practice of removing all wire stays after a certain length of service.

And without the benefit of such tests, practical experience

appears to favor a solid wire stay of the best grade of steel, steel cable wire, or battleship spoke wire, with a slight increase to lighten the outside surface of the wire. Although designs showing as great strength in the higher carbon plain steel wire, it would, in twisted condition, seldom sustain, and resist, much better.

As to stay strand, the various wires composing the strand should be of the best quality, crystalline steel wire, and be strand to be made in two operations; that is, the same wire should be covered by six wires with a short twist. These wires strand strand then be covered, by a separate strand, with twelve wires having a longer twist. The outer layer will have all wires (except the outer wires) of the same length, thus distributing the stresses evenly among the wires.

First at rest the case when the various wires are twisted into strand in the manner and strapping way—that is, in operation, with the same number of points in a given length of strand, for the inside six wires wrapped around the six wires are necessarily shorter than the twelve outer wires. Further, the straight outer wires should stand greater strain without breaking than the wires twisted equally short.

In conclusion, every manufacturer of airplane stays should test and specify the tensile and certified tests for all stay wire or wires in stay strands and outside strands, covering shock elongation, and tensile tests. All wires entering into an elongation and certified test should be reasonably uniform, but it is expected to use stay strands or steel members with low strength steel wires low in elongation, while other wires it is desired or such are of low strength and greater elongation. Uniformity is here the key to insure the use of the best quality of wire in a strapping machine when beginning to test at equal or strand or cord.

The Tensile Tester

In the photograph reproduced herewith is shown an interesting mechanism devised by A. C. Beech of the Blue Island.

The pulley is seated on a platform which can be tilted at will, or made to rotate, and is so constructed that it can be tilted at a vertical axis. The platform is equipped with a coil and drop control, and carries four arms as seen in the photograph. A 2-foot lever supplies air to a central coil.



under the platform from which air is carried along short pipes to the ends of the four arms. At the ends of these are placed air trap pipes and valves.

Just as in the big model, the wheel can shut or open air gates on the side arms and produce or prevent air action. The forward or backward motion of the wheel or platform or platform pulley in the same manner. The air is converted to a drum which operates the four pulleys, one at the end of each arm, and produces or prevents turning.

Airplane Fittings

By J. V. Costello

The term "fittings" as used in the article will apply to all of the metal pieces designed for the purpose of securing upper parts of airplanes, such as struts, bracing, wires, etc. It is fitted used in some of the types of fittings built in machine, recently exhibited in this country, wire made



FIG. 1. BOLT FITTING



FIG. 2. BOLT FITTING

Fittings should be designed to have maximum material for the required strength. The bracing or compression struts, however, are not all to be considered when designing the diameter of the pins. If it is to be secured to a wood member, the bearing value of the wood must also be considered. If a fitting is designed to take a wire pin, the strength of the



FIG. 3. BOLT FITTING



FIG. 4. CORRECT BRACING

a long piece of aluminum castings. The material, which has a strength of lightness, is not based upon by American manufacturers who are producing conditions in quantity.

In greater percentage of airplane fittings is costly design for strength, and in some instances where strength is required simple fittings are used, as designs of in quantity are desirable for rapid production, and being as simple as possible, the reason for their adoption is clear.

The grade of material used in stamped fittings varies among different manufacturers. Excellent results are obtained from



FIG. 5. BOLT FITTING



FIG. 6. BOLT FITTING

one to which the wire is attached should extend that of the wire or turnbuckle, as in the event of breakage replacement of a wire is more simple than replacement of a fitting. Simply



described of 20 to 25 per cent carbon content, heat treated, in physical properties of which are 55,000 lb. per sq. in. ultimate strength, yield point 45,000 lb. per sq. in., and 20 per cent elongation in 2 in. A steel elongating between 20 and 25 per cent and carbon is used in some cases by some manufacturers. Steel of this grade can be used as received from the mill, or, long after, can be kept without fracture, and is not given a subsequent heat treatment. However, the tensile strength at least, averaging 35,000 to 45,000 lb. per sq. in., requires that the design be made correspondingly heavier than the higher carbon steel.



FIG. 5. ANDERSON HINGE

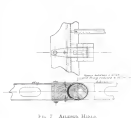


FIG. 7. ANDERSON HINGE



FIG. 4. ANDERSON HINGE



FIG. 8. BALL AND SOCKET FITTING

sockets should be avoided in bearing struts, and the designer should indicate a radius or curves equal to at least the thickness of the metal itself.

In Fig. 2, the fitting is made up of three parts, the two sockets for the struts being spot welded and laced to the main fitting. Fig. 3 shows a fitting in which the strut sockets and main fitting are made from a single piece with the wing galls

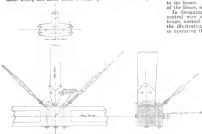


FIG. 10. INVERSE-SOURCE FITTING



FIG. 9. INVERSE-SOURCE FITTING

welded to the main fitting. The fitting in Fig. 3 is not so simple as those illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, and a small change has been made to allow for varying thickness of the bearings. Thus, in some extent, it also is a feature of the design. The metal bearings shown in Fig. 4 are made of 1/32 in. oil cooled steel. The flat pattern of the base is shown in A. The ears are bent up as indicated, and are slipped into and laced to the beams. There is a variety of designs of the upper end of the beams, some of which are shown in the drawings.

In designing these bearings the point of attachment of a control wire is on a line passing through the center of a beam, axial to the center line of the aircraft, as shown in the illustration. This layout gives the least amount of drag in operating the controls.

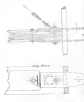


FIG. 11. WING HINGE

Figs. 5, 6 and 7 indicate several designs of struts hinges. Dealing with Fig. 5 is made up of clamps, and wide as a single as the forgings shown in Fig. 6, it appears more secure in that more advantage is taken of the bearing value of the hole in the wood.

The hinge shown in Fig. 6 is assembled into a slot in the wing beam and the bolt hole is then drilled. It frequently

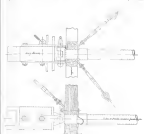


FIG. 12. WING HINGE

beams that in lacing up the several hinges along a slightly curved beam the hinge hinges is not inserted in its proper slot. The distance from the center of the bolt to the end of the hinge is made to allow for this variation.

Examples of some intermediate strut fittings are shown in Figs. 8, 9 and 10. The fitting shown in Fig. 8 is of ball and socket type and designed to take care of any ordinary dihedral wing struts. The plate is designed for the main wing plate, the ball is made of mild rolled steel, the stem which passes through the plate is drilled over. The ball socket which

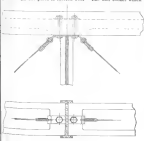


FIG. 14. WING HINGE

is brazed into the strut socket is made from deep drawing steel.

The wing plate of Fig. 9 is sloped. The stem to which the strut is secured is machined at the proper angle to cut the dihedral angle of the wings. This design permits of several different degrees of wing stagger.

The fitting illustrated in Fig. 10 is designed to overcome the

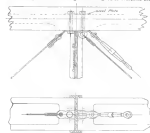


FIG. 13. WING HINGE

compensatory great wind resistance offered by the two types previously shown. It allows for any wing dihedral and the struts are allowed for in part A. A point to be noted in connection with this design is the use in which the ball heads have been put in penetrating the wing plate from being bent out of their position.

Fittings designed to secure the wings to the body are mostly made up of a hinge. This design allows flexibility and is quickly assembled. This is one of the most important fittings on the aircraft. Figs. 11 and 12 show considerable bearing surface against the end of the beam, and takes the compressive shocks due to landing. The hinge is secured to the beam by two bolts and the method of attaching the end of the fitting is the method of the beam is worthy of note.

The main portion of the hinge shown in Fig. 12 is welded and brazed into a steel tube which extends across the body, and makes an excellent construction.

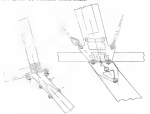


FIG. 15. LATERAL GEAR TO STRUT FITTING

The usual wing drag bracing is shown in Figs 13 and 14. The plate fitting of Fig. 13 is a simple stamping, having a leading edge into the cord which the wire traverses, giving some bracing to the wire loop. This, however, allows dis-

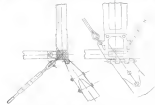


Fig. 10. LANDING GEAR TO BODY FITTING

bottom of the wire loop, which has been overcome in the design shown in Fig. 14. This is made from a single piece of sheet steel, doubled. The point at which the fold is made is looped out, and fits the eye of the wire around.

The steel socket fitting shown in Fig. 15 is made up from 1/2 in. sheet steel welded to the flange plate, which is solid, giving full bearing area to the end of the strut. The socket is soldered to the inside body fitting with four rolled steel bolts.

The steel socket illustrated by Fig. 16 is of the pin variety, is quickly assembled, and gives good streamlining. It will be noted in the drawing that the center line of the various components meet at a common point, which is a desirable feature.

Considerable difference of opinion exists in regard to the merits of welded fittings and those that are knurled. Unless operation, some designs owing to their shape, tend to become better in the practice of welding than bearings and vice versa. Take for instance, taking. Where several pieces of tubing are put together a better job and as much care is obtained if the parts are knurled, welded.

In the case of flat surfaces of second square section, knurled is advantageous in that the knurled metal can be flared over the whole area of the joint, whereas the knurled weld only around the edge. Of course, the spot welder may be utilized here, provided the thickness of the sheet and ground dimensions of the joint permits this operation.

A serious objection to the practice of knurled is that the temperature to which the metal is heated changes the structure of the steel used for fittings. In attempts to knurled fittings which have been knurled, even with bearing metals of comparatively high melting point, sufficient stresses have not been met with to warrant the adoption of this practice. The knurled metal is so called high melting point metal at temperatures between 1,500 and 1,700 deg. at the best prepared in heat treating, ranging as it does from 1,500 to 1,600 deg., depending on the steel, causes the knurled metal to flow more or less, leaving small openings in the metal, which have to be filled.

In connection with knurled, the use of boron as a flux is said to be a thing with a surface of melted boron, which is used with difficulty. Instructions of knurled and as a flux increases this difficulty, as knurled and is easily removed if welding the parts in water.

Welded parts always require a subsequent heat treatment of the full strength of the material to be obtained.

Fittings on which the welds are apparently sound will sometimes crack when knurled, but the welding metal has not properly fused. It is this unsatisfactory which has influenced our engineers against the knurled welded fitting. Expert work can be made to avoid or remove such cracks.

The practice of knurled and that of welding give various results in their proper place, but the superiority of welding, permitting us to design proper heat treating, appears to be the better result.

The Lawson Training Airplane



The primary training airplane of the Lawson Aircraft Corporation of Green Bay, Wis., is a tractor two-seater biplane and is built to the United States Army specifications, No. 1300.

The principal characteristics claimed for this machine are the following:

Span.—Upper wing, 34 ft. 6 in.; lower wing, 34 ft. 6 in. Total span, 69 ft. 0 in.

Length.—Upper wing, 27 ft. 0 in.; lower wing, 27 ft. 0 in. Total length, 54 ft. 0 in.

Weight.—Empty, 1,200 lb.; maximum, 2,000 lb.

Gap between wings, 10 ft. 0 in.

Wing area, 1,200 sq. ft.

Power plant, one 4-cyl., 100 hp. engine (34-hp. model A-74).

Speed.—High speed, 87 mph.

Low speed, 37 mph.

Climb, 1,000 ft. in 10 sec.

Wing load, 12 lb. per sq. ft.

Useful load, 800 lb.

International Aircraft Standards

(Continued from last page)

(3) Specifications for Self Stress Sheet

General.—The general specifications for self stress sheet are as follows: (a) The sheet shall be of the following chemical composition:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(b) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(c) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(d) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(e) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(f) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(g) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(h) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

(i) The sheet shall be of the following mechanical properties:

Element	Per cent
Carbon	0.15
Manganese	0.50
Phosphorus	0.03
Sulfur	0.03

When orders call for 30-Hr. (30-Hr.) lengths, the following tolerances are to be observed, but in no case shall the approximate amount of these short lengths exceed 40 per cent.

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Curtiss Type

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326 Short, Female	327 Short, Female
326 Long, Female	328 Long, Female
327 Long, Male	329 Long, Female



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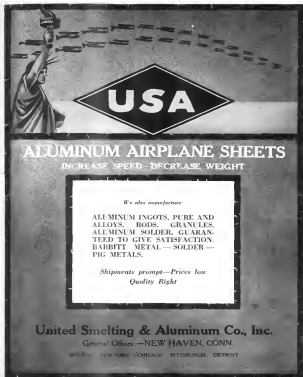
4th Avenue and 13th Street


 An advertisement for AEROL oil. The top half features a cloudy sky with two biplanes flying. The word "AEROL" is written in large, stylized letters, with a propeller integrated into the letter 'O'. Below this, the text "A practical quality oil for aeroplane motors" is printed. The bottom half shows a biplane on a runway with two men standing beside it. The logo "SWAN AND FINCH COMPANY" is in the bottom right corner.

AEROL

A practical quality oil
for aeroplane motors

**SWAN AND FINCH
COMPANY**


 An advertisement for aluminum airplane sheets. The top section features a diamond-shaped logo with the letters "USA" inside. Above the logo, the Statue of Liberty is shown holding a torch, with a trail of biplanes flying from the torch. Below the logo, the text "ALUMINUM AIRPLANE SHEETS" is prominently displayed, followed by "INCREASE SPEED—DECREASE WEIGHT". A central white box contains text about other products manufactured and shipping information. The bottom section identifies the company as "United Smelting & Aluminum Co., Inc." with offices in New Haven, Conn., and branches in New York, Chicago, Pittsburg, and Detroit.

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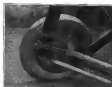
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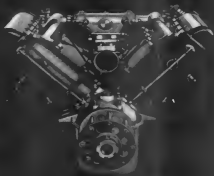
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